GREENBELT
News Review
An Independent Newspaper

Inside Stories

NAM Miss Greenbelt, p.4

ERHS Tryouts, p.11

VOL. 89, No. 39 | 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887 | AUGUST 20, 2026

Greenbelt Rotary Recognizes City's Outstanding Citizens

by Erica Johns

PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Shaymar Higgs speaks to the Rotary Club on August 13.

Attendees packed a Community Center room to celebrate 11 past Greenbelt Outstanding Citizens on Thursday, August 13. The Greenbelt Rotary Club hosted the event to celebrate the many ways Greenbelters contribute to Greenbelt before the 2026 Outstanding Citizen is named at this year's Labor Day Festival. Guests of honor were Sandy Lange (1987), Konrad Herling (2001), Jean Cook (2009), Rick Ransom (2016), Greg Fisanich (2018), Lore Rosenthal and Michael Hartman (2019), Shaymar

See **OUTSTANDING**, page 2

Local Venture Crew Completes Epic Maine Wilderness Expedition

by Jonathan Murray

After months of preparation and nearly two weeks in the wilderness of northern Maine, members of the Venture Crew 746 scouting group have returned home.

The crew's summer adventure included an attempted ascent of Mount Katahdin, Maine's highest peak, and a 100-mile canoe journey through the historic Allagash Wilderness Waterway, one of the Northeast's premier backcountry paddling destinations.

For many of the participants, the trip represented the culmination of a year of training. Crew members spent months developing camping, paddling, navigation and outdoor cooking skills through outings on the Potomac River and training weekends closer to home (see the May 21 and June 25 issues).

This wasn't a trip where one can simply show up and go. The scouts spent months planning, preparing and building the skills

PHOTO BY JONATHAN MURRAY

A group photo at Delaware Water Gap after the expedition. At the back from left, Mariam d'Eustachio, Nelson Gibson, Oscar Gibson, Cary Coppock, Mark Coppock and Miles Gibson; front from left, Paul Ricketts, Jonathan Murray, Regina d'Eustachio, Hannah Baker and Lucy Murray

needed to safely travel through a remote wilderness environment.

Katahdin Beckons

The adventure began with a two-day drive north, first camping at Salisbury Beach, Mass., before continuing to Baxter State Park in northern Maine, home of Mount Katahdin and the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail. After severe weather delayed the climb, the group seized a window of favorable conditions to begin the challenging Hunt Trail.

The climb brought the crew above the tree line and into rugged terrain featuring steep rock

See **VENTURE**, page 7

Too Late to Matter: The Failures Behind the Specimen Ballot Delay

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

This is the second of a two-part series of articles looking at the absence of specimen ballots in Greenbelt in time for the primary election on June 23. This article investigates what caused the delayed mailing.

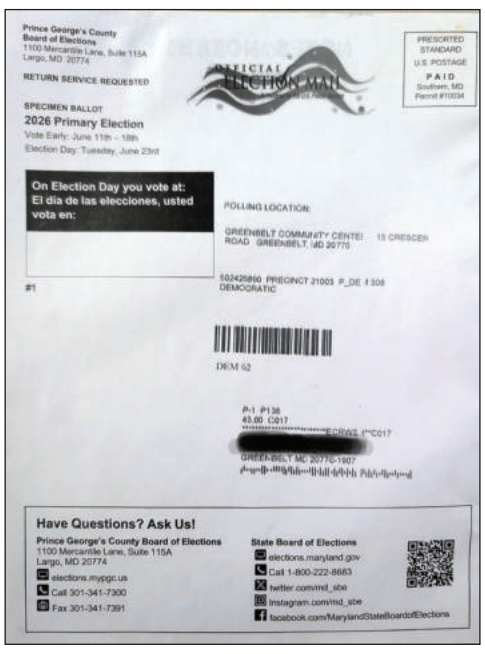


PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Specimen ballots for the primary election included information about the candidates who were running as well as voting dates and polling location. Numerous Greenbelters reported they received theirs after the election.

Specimen ballots should have been mailed to voters by June 4 at the latest according to Maryland election law, which states that they must be mailed at least one week before the first day of an early voting period (see the August 6 article). On June 15, State Administrator of Elections Jared DeMarinis personally directed the county's Board of Elections (BoE) to draft a press release and approved it before publication. DeMarinis did not respond to the questions in our press inquiry on July 24 nor acknowledge subsequent follow-up. Residents of Greenbelt and some other areas of the county reported receiving their specimen ballots after the election.

Several issues led to the delay, including approval delay, mailing errors and communication problems. In addition, on June 17, documents obtained by the News Review through a Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) request show the vendor reported there were insufficient funds in the BoE's mailing account to pay for the ballot mailing, 13 days after the mailing deadline. It's not clear whether lack of mailing funds contributed to any delay, though it threatened to.

Cause of Delay

Election Administrator Wendy Honesty-Bey told the News Review, "Multiple factors contributed to the delay in mailing the specimen ballots, two of which were primary: proof approval delays and address errors in voter files." According to Honesty-Bey, "The initial proof from the vendor was approved on May 20, 2026. However, an unauthorized edit required correction [to the ballot], which the Board ultimately approved on May 26. The second major factor involved voter mailing addresses. On June 3, the vendor notified us of several incomplete addresses. Treating these messages as routine informational updates, the board staff did not immediately take action. Consequently, board staff did not learn that the specimen ballots had not actually been mailed until June 8."

See **BALLOT**, page 8

What Goes On

Monday, August 24
No City Council Meeting: Summer Recess
Wednesday, August 26
No Council Meeting: Summer Recess

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

Greenbelt Back as FBI Home; Court Rejects "Unlawful" Plan

by Steve Crane, Maryland Matters

PHOTO BY BRYAN P. SEARS/MARYLAND MATTERS

The current FBI headquarters at the aging J. Edgar Hoover Building in Washington, D.C.

A federal district judge in Maryland Monday overturned Trump administration plans to build the next FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C., restoring Greenbelt as the likely next home for the agency.

The 47-page ruling and two-page order by U.S. District Judge Theodore Chuang said the abrupt decision last year by the FBI and the General Services Administration (GSA) to say they would move the headquarters into the Ronald Reagan Building in downtown Washington exceeded their authority and was "unlawful."

Chuang's order vacated the decision by the two agencies, which tossed out years of debate and study that led to the selection of the Greenbelt site in 2023, and ordered them to reverse their plan to reprogram $555 million of Greenbelt funding "to relocate to, renovate, build-out, and furnish" the Reagan Building as the next FBI headquarters.

The White House referred requests for comment to the FBI, which did not immediately respond to a request Monday

See **FBI**, page 6

OUTSTANDING continued from page 1

Higgs (2021), Maggie Cahalan (2022), Cathie Meetre (2024) and Robert Goldberg-Strassler (2025).

Collective Effort

When moderator and Greenbelt Rotarian Kristen Weaver invited honorees to discuss what led to the work their awards recognized, Ransom said, "When you contribute to a community you don't do it thinking 'If I do this, I'll get the Outstanding Citizen award,'" to laughter. He and other honorees felt that others deserved the award more or that it should have gone to everyone with whom they worked on projects. Ransom's award recognized service to organizations including American Legion, Greenbelt CARES, the Labor Day Festival and city advisory boards.

Konrad Herling saw his Greenbelt Arts Center proposal as an opportunity for the sake of the community, because "bringing people closer together and putting it together could uplift everyone because ... there's a lot more that we have in common than items that we don't."

Judy Goldberg-Strassler said Robert Goldberg-Strassler (education, literacy, food insecurity, the environment and unifying Greenbelt) "gets the community to do things together. He doesn't think he was deserving, because he felt like it was everybody who joins him in the things he does, to foster kindness throughout the entire community and see all Greenbelt as one."

Cathie Meetre (News Review, Greenbelt Farmers Market, Co-op Rays on the Roof) downplayed her own "specialness," instead emphasizing being a catalyst. "There are lots of people with lots to give," she said, explaining "The question is how to make them behave in concert, to put something together that's mightier than any one individual." She felt most Outstanding Citizens achieve results by harnessing the ideas, energy and contributions of a group.

You Can Do It

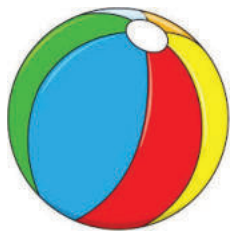
Jean Cook (noted for efforts including the Greenbelt Combined Choir and Miss Greenbelt Pageant) remembered starting with no organization and knowing very little. "It was fun to try it, to see what we could do, and we just started to do it. We didn't know what we were doing, and we had so much fun doing it together and saying 'Hey, that was pretty good!'"

Similarly, Maggie Cahalan, recognized for promoting environmental stewardship and cofounding the Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), described Greenbelters as a quilt of "all the things that we can do together." Her sentiment echoed CHEARS' and others' emphasis on unifying all the areas of Greenbelt.

Lore Rosenthal (honored with Michael Hartman for peace and environmental activism) remembered encouraging the 2019 award audience to act on their ideas and make them happen, because anyone can do it. Cahalan noted ideas building on each other. She remembered attending a climate change education course by Rosenthal based on Project Drawdown resources. Cahalan later won a National Science Foundation grant to use those resources with low-income first-generation college students. Meetre similarly noted that a Greenbelt News Review effort to gather evidence for a Pulitzer Prize application revealed the fragility of original newspaper issues dating from 1937, leading to today's digital archive.

Shaymar Higgs (founder of The SPACE: Free Art For All) recognized his fellow Outstanding Citizens for being "crazy enough to take a chance on yourself and

See **OUTSTANDING**, page 4

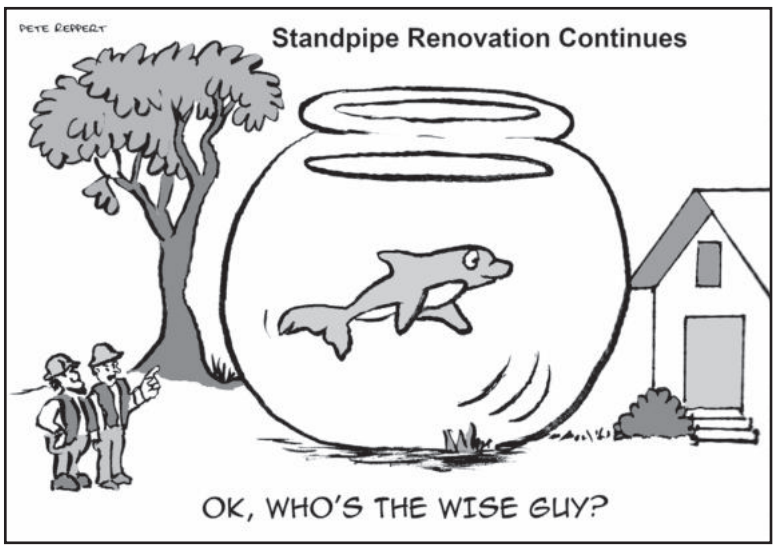


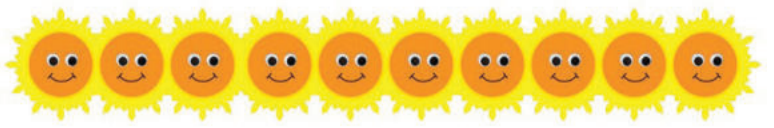
Correction

In our reporting on the county's specimen ballot mailing in our August 6 issue we identified the date of the county Board of Elections' press release about the delay as June 12. The announcement itself was undated but following our inquiry, the date was provided to us in writing by the county's Elections Administrator Wendy Honesty-Bey, who said its date was June 12.

Following documents obtained by the News Review through a public information act request it became evident that the press release was drafted at the request of Maryland State Administrator of Elections Jared DeMarinis on June 15.

We reached out to Honesty-Bey about the discrepancy and she apologized for "misspeaking" and has since identified the correct date of the press release as June 16.





Story & Photograph Submissions

We welcome your stories and photographs about all things Greenbelt. While publication is not guaranteed, your submissions help us cover more of what goes on. Stories will be copyedited. Remember to include captions and identify people in photographs. See the information box on this page for publication deadlines and how to submit materials.

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Tony

Nineteen-year-old Anthony Bourdain (Dominic Sessa) stumbles into the chaotic world of a restaurant kitchen, setting off a summer that shapes the course of his life. Said critic Justin Chang of The New Yorker, "It's a youthful romance, a goofball gross-out, and a Karate Kid fable rolled into one. You might get so caught up in the comedy, familiar beats and all, that you forget you're watching a biopic."

Union County

Will Poulter and Noah Centineo deliver pitch-perfect performances as brothers Cody and Jack Parsons, each navigating a court-mandated drug rehabilitation program in a pocket of rural Ohio hit hard by the opioid epidemic. Provided with hope for the first time since their struggles began and with the support of a tireless counselor (Annette Deao), the brothers work toward a brighter, sober future. Poulter and Centineo blend seamlessly with a supporting cast composed predominantly of nonprofessional actors as they share their actual experiences, pain and optimism as they themselves navigate the program. Ohio-born filmmaker Adam Meeks creates a film imbued with realism for an honest, compassionate portrait of a battle being fought across America and the solidarity that flowers on its front lines.

Punk the Capital

When punk rock erupted in Washington, D.C., it was a mighty convergence of powerful music, friendships and clear minds. This film is the first to explore the incredible challenges that this subculture faced when it took root in the nation's capital in the late 1970s. Punk the Capital situates D.C. punk within the larger narratives of rock 'n' roll, working as a powerful multilayered story for both fans and non-fans of punk rock. Featuring musicians such as Bad Brains, Henry Rollins and Ian MacKaye, the film dives deep into the ideas and sounds from this transformative music scene which continues to influence people culturally and politically around the world.

greenbelt CINEMA

Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always $7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults $10, kids $7, senior/student/military $9

Before 5 PM:
general admission $8, kids $6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
AUGUST 21st - 27th

Tony (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2026) (106 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:40 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:40 PM
Sun. 3:30 PM (OC)
Mon. 6:30 PM
Tues. 6:15 PM
Thurs. 5:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 4:20 PM
Wed. 6:35 PM

Union County (NR)
(CC) (DVS) (2026) (97 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 4:00 PM
Wed. 4:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:20 PM, 8:00 PM
Sat. 5:20 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 3:10 PM
Mon. 6:50 PM
Tues. 6:35 PM
Thurs. 7:40 PM

Punk the Capital
(NR) (2019) (90 mins)
Summer Concert Series
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Wed. 7:00 PM

Greenbelt News Review

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: $55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.

Build with Legos

Monday, August 24, 4 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Build, create and explore with Legos. With plenty of pieces and endless possibilities, kids can let their imaginations take the lead in this freestyle building session. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16523077.

Storytimes

Tuesday, August 25, 12:15 p.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16645490.

Wednesday, August 26, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16486797.

Thursday, August 27, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2, Register at pgcmls.info/event/16486835.

Craft and Create

Thursday, August 27, 2 p.m., ages 13+. Anyone can be an artist. Whether it's a job, hobby or a passing exercise, sketching is a great gateway into art as a form of creative expression. Come with a sketchbook or use the Library's materials. People of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Register at pgcmls.info/event/16815754.

Upcoming Virtual Events

Prince George's County Memorial Library System continues to offer virtual events for the public. A full schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at pgcmls.info/events.

Greenbelt Chess Club Night August 25

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, August 25. The meeting will take place at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:50 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to their mailing list, visit tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Participants Wanted For Oktoberfest Event

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc., is seeking additional local vendors and businesses, especially local crafters and artists, interested in showcasing products or services at its Oktoberfest event. The event is scheduled for October 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fire Department. There are five open slots remaining. Contact the Auxiliary on Facebook at Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary or email gvfdrsla@gmail.com.

Sign up to Participate In Labor Day Festival

Registration is open until Friday, August 28 for the Labor Day Parade, and until Sunday, August 30 for the Rising Stars Showcase, which takes place on Sunday, September 6 on the main stage. Pre-registration is also open for the Art and Photo Shows; artwork and photos must be dropped off at the Community Center gym on Wednesday, September 2 from 5 to 8 p.m.

To register and to find out more about these and other activities at the Festival, visit greenbeltlaborday.com.

Bicyclists Invited to Join GHI Labor Day Parade

The GHI Bicycle Committee invites cyclists of all ages to participate in this year's Greenbelt Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 7, 9 a.m., meet-up location TBA.

In addition to the Parade, on the day before, Sunday, September 6 beginning at 1 p.m., the committee will sponsor a bike decorating party at the GHI building, 1 Hamilton Place. Decorations will be provided or bring your own. Then show off your decorative skills in the Parade.

To get an idea of how many cyclists they'll have, email bmangum@ghi.coop.

This is the first time the GHI Bicycle Committee will participate. Make it a great showing of cyclists, young and young-at-heart. Sign up today and prepare to saddle up.

Be advised that all participants must wear helmets.

Bring Furry or Scaly Friends To Pet Show

PHOTO BY HOLLY WHEELER

Fun at a previous year's pet show

Is your pet special? Girl Scout Troop 23007 invites you to bring your pet to the annual Labor Day Festival Pet Show on Saturday, September 5. Dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, lizards, guinea pigs, rats, snakes and more — all types and sizes of pets are welcome. Meet on the Community Center lawn, rain or shine. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Presentations to share what is wonderful about your pet start at 10 a.m., with award certificates for everyone to follow. Give your special friends the recognition they deserve.

Discounted Wristbands For Festival Rides

Buy wristbands in advance and enjoy discounted prices for the Labor Day Festival rides. Advance sales are now open and are available through Thursday, September 3 at bit.ly/GLDFtickets. There are four-hour unlimited ride options which can be used starting any time on any day of the festival, as well as all-day unlimited ride wristbands. Purchasers will receive a code to scan at the dispensing machines on the festival grounds to collect the wristbands.

Note that the Co-op Supermarket is no longer selling ride vouchers; all tickets are now electronic. Visit greenbeltlaborday.com or email greenbeltlaborday@gmail.com for more information.

St. Hugh's Church Seeks Musicians

Music is an integral part of worship at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. The choir serves the Sunday 11 a.m. Mass and is seeking new members who are interested in singing on a regular basis. Practice is held on Wednesday evenings and the time commitment is from 10:30 a.m. to about 12:15 p.m. most Sundays. The choir is also part of Christmas and other Holy Day Masses. Anyone who would like to sing should consider joining. Accomplished singers who have limited availability could consider cantoring. Instrumentalists are also welcome. To see how to serve, or for more information, contact Music Director Jennifer Goltz at Jen.Goltz@gmail.com.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Potluck and Figs

We're celebrating figs. Join the community plant-based potluck dinner and fig jam demo next Wednesday, August 26 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center dining room. (Arrive at 5:30 to help set up.) Bring a favorite plant-based dish to share (veggies, whole grains, legumes or fruit, minus any animal products).

This CHEARS program is free, though donations are accepted and appreciated.

Scan to register

New Art Gallery Exhibition

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program announces an exhibition at the Community Center art gallery (first floor). The show features mixed media collages by James Stephen Terrell that evoke quilting, sartorial splendor and a cosmic/Afrofuturist sensibility. The gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., whenever the space is not reserved. Volunteers are needed to welcome visitors to the gallery during the Labor Day Festival; choose a shift at sugeni.us/U2bn. All are welcome to attend a free Artist's Talk on Friday, October 9 at 6 p.m., immediately prior to an Art Share; RSVP at sugeni.us/U2bo. Greenbelt's arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Spellman Overpass Resistance Fridays

A weekly protest on Spellman Overpass is on Fridays (except in rain or wind) from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30-ish. Flags and big-letter messages are provided to encourage Parkway motorists' awareness. Extra signage is discouraged.

Access from Gardenway or from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School crosswalk. Questions? Email kashla@pm.me.

Golden Age Club Meeting Schedule

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

The following is the schedule for the remainder of August and the month of September.

August 26, Bingo.

September 2, Business Meeting. Volunteers needed for nominations for office for next year.

September 9, Speaker Lavergne Andre, Podiatry: Foot Structure/Foot Problems.

September 16, Birthday luncheon. Bring a dish to share.

September 23, Bingo.

September 30, Speaker Sharon McCraney, seated exercise and short meditation.

Registration Open For Recreation

Registration is open for Greenbelt residents for Greenbelt Recreation classes and activities. Nonresident registration will open on Monday, August 24 at 10 a.m. Classes begin during or after the week of September 7. Visit greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide to see the Fall Activity Guide. Art class registration remains open until the week before the scheduled start date, but many fill quickly, so sign up as soon as possible to reserve a seat.

Art Studio Open House & Sale

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program will host an Art Studio Open House and Sale on Sunday, October 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Community Center. Tour the studios of the center's eight artists in residence and mingle with Greenbelt Recreation arts instructors; several artists will have work available for purchase. Visit the art gallery and participate in free hands-on activities for all ages. See details as they are announced at greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

GATE GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION
Community-Driven Storytelling

Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television
August 2026
Verizon FiOS Channel 19 · Comcast Channel 77 · Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

Featured Productions

New, daily episodes of Democracy Now

Coverage of local events, performances and productions

All-new creations from Mister Geo's Homeschool Digital Animation Class

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As always, thank you for tuning in!

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt! Try Our New Menu & Drinks!

BECOME A MEMBER!* FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

NEW DEAL CAFÉ Greenbelt, MD

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Hours of operations vary. See NewDealCafe.com for updates.

REMEMBER TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'RE PAID!

* * * RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642 * * *

TH 8/20	FRI 8/21	SAT 8/22	SUN 8/23
The Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30 - 9:30pm If you dream of jamming, this is your chance!	The HalfSmokes 8 - 11pm Performs favs from the WHFS playlist of the glory days.	NDC JAZZ JAM, 2 - 5pm 8 Ball Deluxe 8 - 11pm Delivers then best in classic rock, Motown, soul/funk to get you groovin'	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30a-12noon The Threeties 6 - 8pm Beatles music with tight harmonies, fancy picking, and songs you know and love

MON 8/24	TUES 8/25	WED 8/26	TH 8/27	New Deal Cafe
CAFE CLOSED	NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes 6 - 9:30pm Sign ups begin at 6pm; Open Mic starts at 6:30p	Kim's Grand Rounds - A Songwriters' Circle 7 - 9pm Talented songwriters perform their songs	Reggie Right Eye & The Missing Pieces 7 - 9pm Blues, roots rock, rockabilly & a little country with top DMV musicians	RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NDC! See link below*

*Join NDC! Go to NewDeal Cafe(dot) com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

OUTSTANDING continued from page 2

a chance on other people, to trust other people and step out there to be a mover of things."

Outstanding Citizen Beginnings

Sandy Lange recounted Katherine Keene suggesting the award in the early 1970s, when most Labor Day Festival recognition went to young Miss Greenbelt Pageant winners, whose experience didn't yet compare to contributions of older volunteers. She said David Lange (then Festival vice chair) began organizing the award process in 1971, but there wasn't time to select an awardee for that year's Festival. (David Lange would become the 1986 Outstanding Citizen for organizing Marylanders to pressure state government to protect citizen savings during the 1985 savings and loan crisis.) In 1972 the Festival chose popular nonagenarians "Pop" Cipriano and Jerry Goodin as Parade Grand Marshals. Boy Scout Troop 746 Leader Al Cousin was the first Outstanding Citizen in 1973, and Al and Elaine Skolnik were honored in 1974 for leading the News Review through its multiyear libel case, Bresler vs. Greenbelt News Review, and U.S. Supreme Court win, after a rule change permitted honoring multiple persons who made their contribution as a unit.

PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Maggie Cahalan, Outstanding Citizen for 2022, with Rotarian Kristen Weaver listening in the background

Rotary Community Service

Greenbelt Rotary Club President Paul Ricketts noted the community service ethos shared by Outstanding Citizens and the Rotary Club, which is the primary financial sponsor of the Outstanding Citizen Award. The club supports local causes, including CHEARS Three Sisters gardens, Greenbelt Grows, Venture Crew 746, driver education, the Black History and Culture Committee's middle school essay contest, Springhill Lake and Greenbelt Elementary students and families, and the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival. Ricketts noted the Venture Crew 746 inherited the first Outstanding Citizen's scout troop number 746, and that Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church has hosted both groups.

Oral History

Weaver and Jennifer Dudley (Greenbelt Rotary immediate past president and Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) and CHEARS board member) discussed an ongoing Rotary-GATe project to preserve Outstanding Citizen history, including oral history interviews. Dudley invited Outstanding Citizens and their families interested in participating to email rotarygreenbelt@gmail.com with Outstanding Citizen in the subject line.

The club inducted the honorees as Honorary Rotarians, having inducted Larry Hilliard and Sylvia Lewis earlier this year before they moved out of state. Outstanding Citizens Mary Lou Williamson, Leta Mach, Marsha Voigt, Eric Zhang, Paul Downs and Linda Ivy either couldn't attend or be contacted for the event. Attendees noted recent deaths of Outstanding Citizens, including Solange Hess, John Henry Jones and David Lange.

Weaver closed the event by noting that each Outstanding Citizen saw a need, she said, "something that needs done, someone that needs help or something to beautify the community. They didn't just sit around, they did something and the community recognized that. Even those who don't think you deserved it — the rest of us think 'Yes, you really did.'"

Mishkan Torah Celebrates High Holidays Services

Mishkan Torah will celebrate the following holidays in September.

- Rosh Hashanah on September 11 through 13.
- Yom Kippur on September 20 and 21.

Mishkan Torah is located at 10 Ridge Road and can be reached at mishkantorah.org.

Memorial Service: Dr. David Granite

There will be a memorial service on Sunday, August 23 at 4 p.m. at Mishkan Torah, 10 Ridge Road in Greenbelt for longtime Greenbelt physician Dr. David Granite, who died on July 10. Many Greenbelters remember his care for them and their families. The Granite Building in Roosevelt Center is named in his honor.

NAM Miss Greenbelt Attends U.N. Human Rights Summit

by Mercy Akowe

Greenbelt resident and National American Miss (NAM) for Greenbelt 2025 Mercy Akowe participated in the 2026 International Human Rights Summit held July 30 to 31 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Presented under the theme Education for Peace: A 25-Year Legacy, the summit celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Youth for Human Rights International (YHRI) and brought together more than 550 youth leaders with ambassadors, judges, educators, legislators, law enforcement professionals, Nobel Peace Prize representatives and human rights advocates committed to building more peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

Hosted by YHRI and United for Human Rights, the summit was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations.

Throughout the two-day program, delegates exchanged practical ideas for advancing human rights education and participated in panel discussions on leadership, community engagement and empowering the next generation of changemakers. Akowe, a student at Towson University (class of 2027) and a 2023 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, has been actively involved in Youth for Human Rights since early 2025. In May 2026 she was appointed president of the Youth for Human Rights Chapter of Greenbelt. In this role, she has led community outreach programs, distributed hundreds of human rights booklets across parks, schools and local events, and facilitated educational conversations with students, families and community leaders.

PHOTO COURTESY MERCY AKOWE

Mercy Akowe, Miss Greenbelt at the National American Miss competition

Through her initiative Big Sis, she supports eldest daughters by teaching confidence, leadership and self-advocacy, expanding human rights education into everyday family life. Akowe has collaborated with organizations such as Youth for Human Rights DC, Miss Africa USA, Daughters of Zion Global Foundation and local churches to reach diverse audiences, including participating in Juneteenth celebrations and community service drives. Her work has impacted more than 300 residents in Greenbelt and surrounding cities, strengthening awareness of dignity, equality and youth empowerment. Her selection as a youth delegate at the United Nations is a significant milestone not only for her personal advocacy but for the entire Greenbelt community as a rising leader representing Maryland on a global stage.

"Being in a room with passionate leaders and youth delegates from so many nations was an incredible honor," said Akowe. "Their speeches moved me to tears and gave me a new perspective on human rights."

The road to heaven is paved with good advertising.
Nonprofits $12.15
www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT
Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!
A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

Vision for America
Working Together
A Common Endeavor
Scan with cellphone camera to play on YouTube
Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

St. John's Episcopal Church
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org
Welcomes you each Sunday for Worship & Sunday School at 10:00 AM

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc
301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Core Values from Romans chapter 8.

JOIN MISHKAN TORAH FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS
5787/2026
Warm, welcoming, inclusive, and familial
Learn more and register by scanning the QR code or visiting MishkanTorah.org

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
We Are an Open and Affirming Church
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH
One Hillside Road
Join Us Sunday
10:15 AM for Worship
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org
Rev. Aubra Love, Senior Pastor

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Yael Fischman
A welcoming, inclusive, and friendly synagogue offers something for everyone: young, old, single, married, and both Jewish and interfaith families.
Services at 8:00pm Friday and 9:45am Saturday in person and on Zoom
For more information, visit MishkanTorah.org or call 301-474-4223
A Dual-Affiliated Reconstructionist and Conservative congregation
10 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
• Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
• Sunday Mass:
◦ Sat vigil 5pm*
◦ Sun 8am, 9:30am,11am
• Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.
*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.
CELEBRATE WITH US
135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Play Mahjongg Sat. Afternoons

Play American Mahjongg on Saturday afternoons starting at 2:15 p.m. in Room 109 of the Community Center. Register in the Recreation Department office. The next two class sessions will be held during the fall and winter terms. Check the catalog for more information.

Français, s'il Vous Plaît: Meets on Thursdays

For the month of August, the French conversation group that meets every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. will meet in Room 109 (Senior Activity Room) at the Community Center.

All ages and all levels of proficiency are welcome.

Community Orchestra Welcomes Musicians

Greenbelt Community Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings at the Community Center and welcomes new members, especially double basses, piano and percussion. For more information, visit GreenbeltOrchestra.org.

No Hunger Vacation: No PORCH Vacation

For PORCH collection, put out food before the times given.

Saturday, August 22 – by 10 a.m. for Mathew Street to Megan Lane including Brett Place

Sunday, August 23 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village; after 6 p.m. for 11-S Ridge Road, 14 and 16 Courts Ridge Road, 8 and 10 Courts Southway

Used Books Sought For PTA's Book Sale

The PTA will accept book and media donations at St. Hugh's parish hall on Saturday, August 29 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information, email booksalegespta@gmail.com or visit sites.google.com/view/gespta/events/labor-day-book-sale.

City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 21 - 26

Friday, August 21 at 11:30 am, **ETHICS COMMISSION - *Council Chambers,*** *On the Agenda: Approval of Agenda, Approval of Meeting Minutes, Other Business, Closed Session*

Monday, August 24, **NO MEETING - COUNCIL SUMMER RECESS**

Tuesday, August 25 at 3:30 pm, **SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE - *Greenbelt Community Center, Room 114,*** *On the Agenda: Approval of May Meeting Minutes, Discussion of the September Open Forum*

Tuesday, August 25 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - *Greenbelt Community Center, Room 103,*** *On the Agenda: Labor Day Parade, School Liaisons, Grant Updates*

Tuesday, August 25 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (GREEN ACES) - *Virtual,*** *On the Agenda: TBD*

Wednesday, August 26, **NO MEETING - COUNCIL SUMMER RECESS**

Thursday, August 27 at 6 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS - *Virtual,*** *On the Agenda: TBD*

Thursday, August 27 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD - *Public Works Facility,*** *On the Agenda: TBD*

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

OFFICIAL NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND
CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO. 2134
LANHAM BOYS CLUB

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, a municipal corporation, has initiated legislative action to annex into the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt lands contiguous and adjoining to the city's existing corporate boundaries, as described below:

A Charter Amendment Resolution of the City Council of Greenbelt Enlarging the Corporate Boundaries of the City of Greenbelt By Annexing Into The Corporate Limits of the City of Greenbelt Lands Contiguous and Adjoining to the City's Existing Corporate Boundaries Property Commonly Known As Lanham Boys Club, Consisting Of Approximately 10 +/- Acres of Land In Total Located Generally at the Lanham Boys Club.

The annexation resolution was initiated by the City Council pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, Local Government Article, § 4-403.

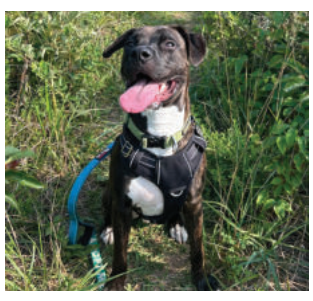
The exact legal description and annexation plan for the above Annexation Area are available online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/news, or may be reviewed in person at the City of Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed annexation on **September 14, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Council Room at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. Public testimony will be received by the City Council at the hearing.

Written comments may be presented at the public hearing or submitted in advance to the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

FEATURED PETS

BLU



Ready for Adoption?

Call (301) 474-6124

1-year-old Blu was surrendered to the shelter back in March and has watched as dozens of hopeful adopters visited other dogs in our care, but seldom ever sparing him a glance. This sweet boy has a ton of love to give, and after a long walk or game of fetch, Blu loves curling up next to you for a snuggle. This energetic boy is potty trained, non-reactive, and his former owner says he loves other dogs. No puppy should have to grow up in the shelter – please spread the word to help find the forever home Blu deserves!

If you're interested in adopting bright-eyed Blu, please email animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-474-6124 for more information.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

Greenbelt Recreation Presents

Labor Day Weekend

FREE EVENTS ALL WEEKEND!

Friday September 4

Youth Center
- 6:00 pm — Adult Table Tennis Tournament *(18 & over)*

Saturday September 5

Braden Field
- 10:00 am — Diaper Derby for Crawlers & Toddlers *(3 & under)*
- 10:45 am — Balloon Waddle Race *(all ages)*
- 11:15 am — Water balloon Toss *(all ages)*
- 11:45 am — Pie Eating Contest *(all ages)*

Youth Center
- 1:00 pm — Photo Scavenger Hunt *(all ages)*
- 2:00 pm — Hotshot *(12 & under)*
- 3:30 pm — 2 Ball Tournament *(16 & older)*

Sunday September 6

Braden Field
- 10:00 am — Egg Spoon Race *(all ages)*
- 10:30 am — Sack Race *(all ages)*
- 11:00 am — 3 Legged Race *(all ages)*
- 11:30 am — Water Relay *(all ages)*
- 1:00 pm — Cornhole Tournament *(12 & older)*

Youth Center
- 1:00 pm — Children's Bingo *(12 & under)*
- 2:00 pm — Youth Table Tennis Tournament *(17 & under)*
- 3:30 pm — 3-Point Contest *(ages 13-17)*

GREENBELT CARES PROGRAMS

MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION
Thursday, September 17, 1 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd

The Monthly Food Distribution is a community resource here for you, your family, your neighbors - everyone!

ADDITIONAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION
Thursday, September 8, 11 am - 4 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Rd

Please don't forget to bring your CAFB card! Don't have one? You can sign-up for a free card same-day and receive food. Registration required: https://forms.gle/YWnhAmdeXsK91HRi6

SCAN ME

EMERGENCY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION
Thursday, September 8, 11 am - 4 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Rd

Helping our community access essential diaper products!

For Greenbelt residents only.

A new registration is required for each monthly distribution: https://forms.gle/H2KsdhZAPQst7ZKn7

THE PINK PANTRY
Thursday, September 8, 11 am - 4 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Rd

Helping our community access essential menstrual products!

For more information or to register contact Cesar Herrera: (202) 891-8071. Registration required.

GREENBELT WELCOME KITS!

Material Drop-Off

We're looking for materials to add to the City's Welcome Kits for new residents and visitors. Please dropoff at the Municipal Building to

James Wisniewski
25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

NO LATER THAN 4 PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES * APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Appeals, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx

Fall Registration Now Open for Greenbelt Residents
Sign-up for classes, workshops, meet-ups, and special events for all ages. Registration is now open for Greenbelt Residents. Non-resident registration begins 8/24 at 10am. See brochure and more information at www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide. Fall session begins September 7.

Friends & Family: Felted Fall Garland 9/18; 5:30-7pm (Greenbelt Community Center) This workshop is great for participants of all ages, and no experience is necessary! Adults and teens ages 12+ can learn to needle felt 2 dimensional shapes. Children under 12 can cut out wool felt, or learn to make pom poms. Registration required- see page 22 of the Fall Activity Guide. $5/$10.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

Registration required for these activities, see www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide for details

- **Fused Glass Suncatcher** 8/30; 11am-12:30pm & 12:30pm-1:30pm Greenbelt Community Center bit.ly/4vYvclm
- **The Stitchery** 9/14-10/19; 6-8pm Greenbelt Community Center (pg 29)
- **Gelli Plate Printmaking** 9/15-11/10; 6:30-8:30pm Greenbelt Community Center (pg 32)

Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and Twitter @cityofgreenbelt! For City information and events, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov

FBI continued from page 1

evening. But Maryland officials were tripping over themselves to cheer the ruling.

Maryland Attorney General Anthony Brown, who was first to report the decision late Monday afternoon, said that by blocking the Trump administration attempt to move the project and divert the funds, "the Court has cleared the path back to Greenbelt."

"This victory is about more than a building. It is about ensuring that when Congress makes a decision, the Federal Government cannot simply ignore it because they do not like the outcome," Brown said in a prepared statement.

Gov. Wes Moore (D) said Trump "tried to take from Maryland what Maryland had already won. He failed."

"I am grateful to all of Team Maryland – especially Congressman Steny Hoyer – who have worked tirelessly for decades to make this a reality," he said in a statement released by his office. "Now it is time to stop the games and get to work building the world-class FBI headquarters that our public servants deserve, where it belongs: in Prince George's County, Maryland."

Team Maryland is a reference to the coalition of state, local and federal officials who pushed back against the Reagan Building proposal, and filed the lawsuit last November that Chuang ruled on Monday.

All sides agree that a new headquarters building is needed to replace the current facility, the J. Edgar Hoover Building on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington. The brutalist, concrete building, which opened in 1974, long ago outlived its usefulness and has been literally falling apart for years, with pieces of concrete falling off the building at times.

The dilapidated building is too small for current agency functions, forcing the FBI to lease office space around Washington, which is not only costly but does not allow for efficient management of the sprawling FBI.

Repairing the Hoover Building has been determined to be neither technically nor economically feasible. Congress in 2011 directed the GSA to find a new site on federal land in the Washington area, within 2 miles of a Metro station and 2.5 miles of the Capital Beltway, for a new consolidated headquarters building. Proceeds from the sale of the Hoover Building were to be dedicated to the project.

The GSA quickly developed a short list of sites: Greenbelt and Landover in Maryland, and Springfield, in Northern Virginia. In 2017, Congress approved funding for the project.

But in July 2017, during Trump's first term, the FBI and GSA hit the brakes on the project, saying Congress had not appropriated sufficient funding for the entire project. It stalled for the rest of Trump's term.

In 2022, Congress restarted the process and in November 2023 — after serious wrangling between lawmakers in Maryland and Virginia — the director of a special GSA selection committee announced Greenbelt as its choice.

The Trump administration upended that on July 1, 2025, when the FBI and GSA jointly announced that they were abandoning Greenbelt and moving the headquarters to the Reagan Building, a few blocks away from its current location.

Maryland officials sued, claiming that the selection of Greenbelt had been authorized by Congress and could not simply be reversed by executive agencies.

Chuang agreed, saying the agencies exceeded their authority and their actions violated the law and the Administrative Protection Act. He also issued an injunction against the government taking any actions or spending any funds to facilitate the Reagan Building move.

The government argued in court that rejecting the Reagan Building would "likely result in the FBI Headquarters remaining in the Hoover Building indefinitely," since it would not order construction to start on Greenbelt. But Chuang disagreed, saying rejecting the Reagan Building would have the effect of reinstating Greenbelt as the selected site for the project.

Team Maryland — eight of the nine members of the state's congressional delegation — vowed to keep fighting to make the new headquarters in Greenbelt a reality.

"We will not stop fighting to fulfill our promise to the men and women of the Bureau to deliver a new, secure headquarters in Maryland so they can do their work without compromising their safety or our national security," they said in a joint statement Monday night.

Prince George's County Executive Aisha Braveboy welcomed the decision, saying the FBI project would be "the single largest economic development project in the history of Prince George's County."

"It is estimated to create over 7,500 jobs and add approximately $4 billion to the GDP of the County and State," she said in a statement released by her office. "If you look at the history of economic development in the Metro DC region, landing a major federal agency like the FBI has been the catalyst for significant economic development.

"Prince George's County simply wants the opportunity to reap the economic benefits that would flow from locating the FBI HQ in Greenbelt," Braveboy said.

Maryland Matters reporter William J. Ford contributed to this report.

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"After years of rigorous, well-balanced federal review, Greenbelt was selected as the best site for a consolidated FBI headquarters," said Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan in response to the ruling. "The potential benefits of this project extend far beyond Greenbelt and Prince George's County: creating local jobs; adding resources to Maryland's economy; and driving new growth in communities along the Metro and MARC lines," Jordan told the News Review on Tuesday. "Hopefully, this ruling will clear the way for construction of the modern, secure headquarters campus the FBI truly needs."

Join Greenbelt Concert Band and Ensembles

New musicians are invited to join the Greenbelt Concert Band, Greenbelt Wind Ensemble and Greenbelt Brass Ensemble for their 2026–2027 season. Whether just returning to an instrument or been playing for years, there's a place for all musicians. No audition is required. All rehearsals are held in Room 201 at the Community Center. The Concert Band rehearses on Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m. and the Wind Ensemble on Tuesdays, 1:15 to 3 p.m. Learn more at greenbeltconcertband.org.

PG Fire Department Violates Public Information Requirements

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On July 2, the Greenbelt News Review submitted a Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) request to Prince George's County Fire Department (PGFD) for call types and response times for Greenbelt.

Immediately following the removal of career firefighters from the Greenbelt station on June 30, 2024, Prince George's County Fire Department, under then-Chief Tiffany Green, provided aggregated call type and response time data for the city's calls, with a comparison to times prior to the career staff's removal.

The News Review requested similar data from PGFD in June and was informed by Press Information Officer Michael Yourishin that a MPIA request would be necessary due to ongoing litigation between PGFD and the City of Greenbelt.

The city's ongoing court case over the removal of the firefighters — Town of Berwyn Heights, et al. v. Prince George's County, Maryland, et al. — is scheduled to be heard on September 10 at the Appellate Court in Annapolis. This follows a postponement at the city's request after leaders believed firefighters would be returned early this year (see the January 21 issue).

Under Maryland law, a custodian of public records has 10 working days to respond to a request and provide an anticipated timeframe, any fee range and reason for requiring a delay of more than 10 working days. The request must then be denied or approved and records produced or officially withheld within 30 days.

The News Review did not receive any communication within 10 business days. We followed up on the status of our MPIA request with PGFD on August 3, 32 days after the request was made. That day Joel A. Moodie, of Records Management for PGFD, responded, "Your request for 'Greenbelt response time data' has been received and is under review. I do not anticipate any processing fees, but the fulfillment date should be 10 days from now." On August 18, two weeks after Moodie suggested a 10-day fulfilment date, we reached out to PGFD again.

At time of press, on Tuesday, August 18, 47 days after our request, the News Review had not received the documents and data requested in our MPIA from July 2 nor any explanation of the delay.

Back-to-School Free Fairs, Clinics for Immunization

Maryland State Law requires all students to receive immunizations by Monday, September 14 or risk being excluded from school. PGCPS students can get free immunizations at Back-to-School Immunization Fairs or at the Cheverly Health Department.

Immunization Fairs are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on August 22 at Kenmoor Middle School, September 12 at High Point High School and September 26 at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Cheverly Health Dept. Clinics at 3003 Hospital Drive, Suite 2082, Cheverly, are August 10 to October 31, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Schedule an appointment at pgcps.org/offices/school-health/immunizations/upcoming-clinics/back-to-school-vaccine-clinics.

• Renovations
• Flooring
• Painting
CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE
CUSTOM IMPROVEMENTS
301-844-8897

PUBLIC POLICY VOLUNTEERS
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
LEGACY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY

The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2026-2027 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

The twelve-week classroom training (two days per week) begins on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, and ends on Wednesday, December 2, 2026.

Classes will be held at the University of Maryland Extension, 8930 Stanford Blvd, Suite 25, Columbia, Md., 21045. The volunteer assignment will be in the legislative offices of members of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.

Participants will serve a minimum of two (2) days per week starting Wednesday, January 13, 2027, and ending Monday, April 12, 2027.

For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at wqueen@umd.edu.

VENTURE continued from page 1

where anchors and hand holds were bolted into the rock. However, after monitoring changing weather conditions and adhering to a predetermined turnaround time, the group decided to turn back before reaching the summit. As if on cue, the winds started gusting and the skies darkened. It was time to descend.

The choice proved to be an important lesson in wilderness leadership. Adult leader Kevin d'Eustachio was heard to say that when the weather hits, "It is better to be down there wishing you were up here, rather than up here wishing you were down there."

On to the Allagash

Following their time in Baxter State Park, youth leaders Hannah Baker and Mark Coppock led their crew onto the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, beginning a 100-mile, 10-day journey through some of the most remote landscapes in the East.

The paddlers quickly discovered that nature had plans of its own. Less than a mile into the first day, rounding the point into Chamberlain Lake, the crew were forced to stop and camp due to wind-whipped, white-capped waves. These same conditions occurred repeatedly, forcing the crew to adjust daily objectives. Many days began before sunrise as the group sought to take advantage of calmer morning conditions and the long summer days in the far north. In fact, the crew had built in multiple weather days as a contingency and every single extra day was used – it almost was not enough.

Despite the challenges, the crew continued north through a landscape of dense forests, pristine lakes and winding rivers. Wildlife sightings became a regular occurrence. Loons provided a soundtrack to nearly every morning and evening, while bald eagles and multiple moose sightings highlighted the trip. One particularly memorable moose encounter occurred when the scouts quietly drifted toward an animal feeding along the shoreline, before an accidental bang of a paddle on a canoe hull sent the moose running back into the forest.

The expedition also included visits to several historical sites deep in the wilderness, including the famous "Ghost Trains" of the Allagash region, abandoned locomotives that remain as reminders of Maine's logging heritage.

While the daily paddling was demanding, the crew also found time to enjoy some unexpected comforts.

PHOTO BY JONATHAN MURRAY

From left, Hannah Baker, Lucy Murray, Regina d'Eustachio and Miles Gibson cook the famous frittata in camp.

Backcountry Cooking

Backcountry cooking became a major highlight of the trip. Scouts prepared an impressive variety of meals using dehydrated and shelf-stable ingredients, demonstrating skills they had practiced throughout the year.

Among the culinary successes was a bacon, pepper, onion and cheddar frittata prepared using OvaEasy eggs, which taste and cook like fresh eggs. Most expected it to be good enough for camp food, but it turned out to be one of the best breakfasts of the entire trip.

The crew also developed a wilderness shower system using tarps for privacy and repurposing the water filter bags for gravity-fed showers. During one weather-related layover, campers even heated water over a fire, transforming a simple rinse into a luxury experience.

Another discovery came along the shoreline when scouts encountered freshwater mussels, one of which attached itself to a scout's paddle. After discovering a large number on the lakeshore, a small sample were cooked over a campfire with garlic and butter, creating one of the most unusual meals of the expedition.

Teamwork, Adaptability

Teamwork and adaptability became recurring themes throughout the journey. From battling headwinds to navigating shallow river channels, every day required problem-solving and cooperation.

Perhaps the most memorable moment came when the crew transformed a 10' x 10' rain tarp into a makeshift sail. The six canoes arranged together in a flotilla with the homemade sail carried the crew a solid 10 miles, the length of Long Lake. During that time, the group traded hard paddling for laughter, sea shanties and smooth sailing.

A Celebration

The journey also included special milestones, including the celebration of Crew President Lucy Murray's 16th birthday. "I thought it was crazy," Murray said, "that here I am in the middle of nowhere, where few people had ever been, on my birthday." Fellow scouts baked a cake, while neighboring paddlers (with a random Greenbelt connection) helped provide ingredients to put the icing on the cake, literally providing chocolate and butter for a fresh ganache.

Expedition End

After nearly two weeks in the woods, the expedition concluded in the town of Allagash, near the Canadian border. Returning to roads, vehicles and cell service proved to be an adjustment after so many days immersed in nature.

By the time the crew arrived back home in Maryland, participants had gained far more than miles traveled, because the lessons in leadership, decision-making, resilience and teamwork will stay with them long after the memories of paddling and campfires fade.

Interested in Adventure?

If trips like this sound exciting, Venture Crew 746 would love to meet you. Our program is open to all youths aged 14 to 21. No experience necessary except a willingness to try new things.

Join us at our Open House on Sunday, August 30 at Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church or attend our Rotary Club presentation on October 8, where crew members will share photographs and stories from the expedition.

For more information, email VentureCrew746@gmail.com.

Elks Lodge 1778 - Hoop and Soccer Shoot - Free Contest in Riverdale, MD

September 12th, 2026 – Parents and Contestants must be ON TIME.

Please PRE-REGISTER by September 1, 2026, by calling 301-864-7879 and providing your name and phone number.

Hoop Shoot contestants & parents arrive @ 12:30 pm, contest will start @ 1 pm. Contestants must be at least 8 and no older than 13 as of April 1, 2026, to participate.

Soccer Shoot contestants & parents arrive @ 2:30 pm, contest will start @ 3 pm. Contestants must be 15 and under as of January 1, 2026, to participate.

New and Old Favorite Food Choices Abound at Festival

by Jon Gardner

Nobody will go hungry at the Labor Day Festival this year; the Festival Committee has booked a wide variety of food trucks and booths. From Rasta pasta to falafel, from tikka masala to Chicago hot dogs, there will be something to please every palate and fill every tummy. There will be fresh-squeezed lemonade and smoothies to cool off with and freshly made churros to finish the meal.

Catalyst Hot Dogs returns this year with their specialty regular and vegan hot dogs, while Food Fest has been a regular at the festival with pad thai and chicken-on-a-stick. Just Like Home and Shawarma Xpress are both new this year, bringing spicy Indian curries and Middle Eastern street food.

The wide variety of cuisines continues with Trippy Tacos serving Mexican food, 21 Mediterranean Doner serving rice bowls and kebabs, Paradise Island serving jerk chicken and paella, and Exclusive Eats selling Cajun alfredo and wagyu burgers. Underwood Concessions returns this year with traditional Festival foods: cheesesteak, sausages and fries.

Shake and Serve was new last year, bringing dirty sodas and fresh lemonade, while Kona Ice will bring smoothies and shaved ice. The popular Snowball booth returns this year after taking last year off. There are plenty of ways to cool off on a hot day.

Funnel cakes are a Festival tradition and will be sold by the carnival ride operator, Snyder's Attractions. They will also sell cotton candy, caramel apples and soft-serve ice cream, as well as other old favorites. But this could be the year to form some sweet new traditions, stopping at Nina's Cookie Explosion for a triple chocolate cookie, or watching Don Churro make fresh churros to order, filled with chocolate or dulce de leche.

Those on a vegan diet can enjoy vegan specialty hot dogs, vegan paella, vegan rice bowls, chana masala and vegan or gluten-free cookies.

This year, plan to eat every meal at the Festival – no need to repeat with so many options to choose from.

Jon Gardner is a member of the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee, the all-volunteer committee that puts on the Festival each year.

LET'S PLAY!! ADOPT US!!

Robin (male w/white dot) - the mustache makes him look so mature but he's just a curious kitten looking for cuddles. Ruby (female) is sweet and gentle. A little shy, she wants to be your precious girl.

Contact: GREENBELT.TNR@GMAIL.COM

ADOPT US, WE'RE STARS!!

Sheila E knows she's special and Apollonia will rock your world! These two ladies will make you a fan. They just need your love and a forever home.

Contact: GREENBELT.TNR@GMAIL.COM

GREENBELT CUTIES!!

Kimchi (boy) and Pepper (girl with white bib) are looking for forever homes.

Contact: GREENBELT.TNR@GMAIL.COM

ADOPT US!!

Greenbelt TNR (Trap/Neuter/Return) has 2 of the kittens in their care ready for adoption. Lisa and Wendy are 5 months old. These sweet girls are bonded and ideally should be adopted as a pair.

Contact: GREENBELT.TNR@GMAIL.COM

BALLOT continued from page 1

Address Errors

On June 3, the day before the shipping deadline, Adrian Salotti, postage specialist and mailing representative with the vendor Indiana Printing & Publishing Company (IPP), alerted the BoE to the address errors. He sent further emails on June 4 and June 5 with details of address issues found, stating "please advise," in both communications. Although Honesty-Bey says the BoE treated these messages "as routine informational updates," the message thread from the vendor had a subject line that included the word "urgent" in all caps and it was titled "URGENT MAILING INQUIRY: Addresses missing City, State, ZIP."

On June 8, IPP General Manager Jamee Crusan intervened to solicit a response from the BoE, writing, "Could someone please get back to Adrian as soon as possible? Missing these address details is delaying the shipping process. Additionally, please verify the current balance of the postage account so we can ensure these items are shipped promptly." Honesty-Bey responded an hour later, which was five days after the first email alerting the BoE of address issues, saying the June 4 spreadsheet "only had two names listed" and asking: "So are you tell[ing] me that based on that, you all haven't shipped any specimen ballots out yet? Or just those that are in question." Honesty-Bey also stated she would verify postage that day, which was June 8. At that point, no ballots had been shipped. Salotti replied that the rest of the ballots have been "getting prepped for mailing in the meantime," and "as soon as we have confirmation on the funds being available on the permit, we can begin delivery."

Postage Funds

The BoE in their summary of what caused delays did not mention postage funding but repeated messages from the vendor warned them that funds had to be in the mailing account. As noted, Honesty-Bey first said she would check that funds were available on June 8, which was already past the statutory deadline for the mailings. On June 12, eight days after the mailing deadline, Salotti again asked the BoE to verify that postage amounts will be available. Honesty-Bey responded on June 12 saying there should be funds in the account and asking if ballots had been mailed yet, since they had passed the deadline.

On June 15 Crusan wrote: "We began mailing last week, and the remaining items should be out by the end of this week. Please ensure that the necessary funds are available in the permit account."

On June 17 the Distribution Manager for IPP Terri Maughan emailed Honesty-Bey, "We are currently scheduling the truck to pick up the voters' guides for tomorrow's delivery. While preparing the mail permits, we noticed that there are still insufficient funds in the postal account.

"Could you please verify when the postage will be paid? I want to ensure there are no issues with tomorrow's deliveries, as they will consist of two truckloads." In an email shortly after, Maughan clarified: "I cannot schedule the trucks until postage payment is confirmed. If this is not resolved by 2 p.m. today, we will have to reschedule the deliveries for Monday, assuming funds are available by then. We want to avoid further delays and are doing everything possible on our end to stay on schedule. However, we require confirmation of payment before we can move forward."

The Monday referenced was June 22, one day before the election.

Honesty-Bey did not respond by the 2 p.m. Wednesday deadline but at 4:45 p.m. wrote that she had informed "Mike" (likely IPP President Mike Donnelly) the day before that funds would be available on Thursday and "you all can [send] it out." "So now, they won't be going out until Monday???" asked Honesty-Bey. Maughan responded, "When we ran the report it said insufficient funds. We have it resolved and we are on track with tomorrow's delivery." It's unclear if the trucks made the delivery on Thursday but Honesty-Bey has given the final delivery date as a day later, Friday, June 19.

The News Review has not yet obtained documents that confirm the dates of the mailings, which the BoE says were sent in waves with the first on June 10 and final on June 19. We have submitted a supplemental MPIA request for USPS receipts and postage statements to confirm mailing dates.

Announcement of Delay

Prince George's County Board of Elections did not announce the delay until June 16, 12 days after the deadline and five days after early voting began. Honesty-Bey previously told the News Review via email that the date of the undated press release about the delay on the Prince George's County BoE website was June 12. Internal communications obtained via an MPIA request show the press release was drafted on the evening of June 15 following a directive from DeMarinis and was approved by him the same evening prior to posting. DeMarinis emailed Honesty-Bey on the afternoon of June 15 saying, "We are receiving many calls regarding the specimen ballots. You should issue a statement that they [were] sent out. I would acknowledge the fact that they were sent late. This will stop some of the mis/disinformation being circulated around them." Honesty-Bey this week apologized for "misspeaking" and gave the actual date of the press release as June 16.

Delivery Timeline

The vendor informed the BoE that "ballot styles under 200 in quantity do not qualify for bulk rates and must run as first class." Those mailings were set to arrive within one to three business days, according to IPP. The majority of the mailings were a bulk mailing, which are not required to be sent first class. At time of press Honesty-Bey had not responded to our inquiry about whether they had been provided with delivery estimates for bulk mailing timeframes or what they understood those to be.

However, based on Honesty-Bey's assertion that final mailings were sent on Friday, June 19, if delivery took more than two business days (Saturday and Monday) the specimen ballots would have arrived on election day or later.

Complaints from Public

Records reviewed by the News Review show the BoE received documented complaints from voters across the county who did not receive specimen ballots prior to the primary. At least two complaints in the MPIA file are from voters who complain of receiving specimen ballots for the wrong legislative district, and at least one Republican household says they received a specimen ballot with blank pages where candidate information should have appeared.

No Competitive Bid Process

Prince George's County paid IPP a total of $370,293 for the specimen ballot mailing contract. It is not yet clear what the postage cost itself was for the mailing.

The contract was a sole source or no-bid contract "due to the time-sensitive nature of election preparation and printing deadlines" and the need for a vendor "capable of producing and distributing three high-volume voter guides within a limited timeframe." The BoE's justification for bypassing the competitive bid process was partly based on volume but the justification gave a figure approximately 30 percent higher than the actual mailing need.

In the justification for the sole

See **BALLOT**, page 9

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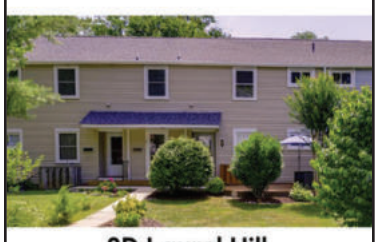

8D Laurel Hill
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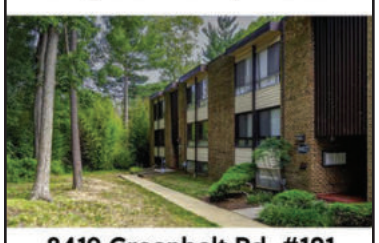

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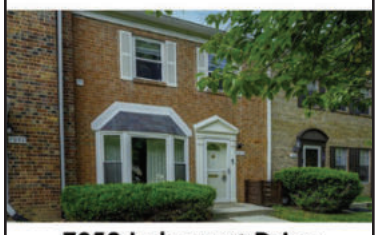
~~$170,000~~ **now $165,000**
This Chelsea Woods condo is tucked away in the trees, a quiet oasis with a large balcony overlooking the pool and tennis courts.



7950 Lakecrest Drive
~~$329,000~~ **now $319,000**
A gem in Charlestowne Village, this townhome has a remodeled kitchen, recessed lighting, replacement windows and sliding glass door, and laundry in the primary en suite bathroom.

Kim Kash & Andrew Nugent
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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred August 10-16, 2026. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported three mental health incidents, one involving suicide, one domestic incident and one case involving Child Protective Services. A missing girl was safely reunited with her family. A firearm was found buried and turned over to police.

Robbery

On August 14 at 7:33 p.m. near 6004 Springhill Drive, a food delivery driver stated that after no one answered the door where the order was to be delivered, he walked back to his vehicle; two men took the food and fled on foot.

Suspicious Persons

On August 14 at 4:31 p.m. near 5800 Cherrywood Lane, officers approached a group of four to seven young men loitering in an area clearly marked "No Loitering." They were wearing black long-sleeve hoodies and ski masks on a hot day. They ran, and officers stopped three of them. One had a replica 9mm Glock 17 BB gun in his backpack. All three were detained and the parents were called. The juveniles were released at the scene. The firearm was seized and placed into evidence.

Armed Person

On August 13 at 8:32 p.m. near the 6100 block of Breezewood Court, two men came to a residence looking for a man's brother, stating that he had stolen two firearms from them. The brother fled and the men chased after him. Officers did not locate them. The man believed one of them was armed because he kept placing his hand into his waistband.

DUI Arrests

On August 12 at 2:23 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Southway, a U.S. Park Police officer notified Greenbelt Police of a driver in the middle of the road asleep behind the wheel. The driver was arrested for DUI.

On August 13 at 9:11 p.m. near 5900 Breezewood Drive, officers stopped a vehicle operating at night without its headlights or taillights illuminated. The driver said he did not have a driver's license and that he lived around the corner; he admitted to consuming alcohol, submitted to sobriety testing and was arrested and charged with DUI.

On August 14 at 8:21 p.m. near Cherrywood Terrace and Breezewood Drive, officers stopped a vehicle for driving without a front bumper and a non-functioning headlight. The driver had an ID-only status and did not possess a valid driver's license. He displayed several signs of impairment, refused sobriety testing and was arrested and charged with DUI. At the station, he voluntarily stated that he had consumed a couple of alcoholic beverages prior to driving.

On August 15 at 10:41 p.m. near Cherrywood Lane and Breezewood Drive, police arrested an 18-year-old man for DUI after initially stopping him for traveling with his headlights and taillights off in dark conditions. The vehicle was traveling at approximately 10 mph in a posted 35 mph zone, impeding the regular flow of traffic and causing several vehicles to slow up behind it. The man admitted to consuming alcohol and displayed several signs of impairment.

Fraud

On August 10 near 225 Lakeside Drive, funds were withdrawn from someone's account.

On August 16 near 203 Lakeside Drive, a woman sent money to a realtor for real estate services, and reported that the realtor has since refused to show her additional properties unless she sends him more money.

Theft and Shoplifting

On August 11 at 2:49 p.m. near 14 Parkway, a man's phone was taken by a female acquaintance without permission; he later got his phone back and does not want further police action.

On August 12 at 11:29 a.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a woman was apprehended for stealing merchandise and was banned; at 1:58 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man wearing a black tuxedo T-shirt, black backpack and black ski mask entered a jewelry store, stole items and fled.

On August 13 at 4:26 p.m. near 7551 Greenbelt Road, a man entered the business as a patient, concealed a pair of sunglasses and fled.

Trespassing Arrest

On August 10 at 9:14 p.m. near 7810 Walker Drive, a man occupied a hotel room without permission and refused to leave or open the room door to officers. He was removed and arrested.

Vandalism

On August 11 at 3:52 a.m. near 5353 S. Center Drive, a front bay window and three side windows were damaged, and a neighbor saw someone wearing a white T-shirt running from the area.

On August 14 at 1:23 p.m. near 6160 Greenbelt Road, a restaurant patron complained about the food and, after receiving a refund, became irate and demanded additional food at no cost. When the request was declined, she pushed a plexiglass barrier from the counter, causing it to fall and shatter into several pieces.

Vehicle Crimes

Stolen Vehicles

On August 12 near 6602 Lake Park Drive, a 2026 Acura Integra (Md. 1FJ3556), and on August 15 near 6144 Springhill Terrace, a 2020 Toyota Highlander (Md. 9GW1463) were stolen.

Stolen Vehicle Recovered

On August 16 near 9102 Springhill Lane, a 2015 Toyota Camry was recovered by Park Police.

Theft From Auto

On August 15 at 2:47 a.m. near 5717 Greenbelt Metro Drive, a suspect noticed a flat tire on his vehicle. He then attempted to steal another tire from a vehicle nearby. He was arrested; the other occupants were all juveniles, and their families were contacted.

Wheels were stolen from six vehicles: on August 11 near 9110 Springhill Lane from a 2026 Toyota RAV4, and near 5908 Cherrywood Terrace from a 2026 Honda Civic; on August 12, near 9004 Breezewood Terrace from a 2026 Honda Pilot, near 7503 Greenbrook Drive from a 2026 RAV4, and near 7480 Greenway Center Drive from a RAV4; and on August 15 near 7200 Hanover Drive from a Toyota Highlander.

Five vehicles had tags stolen: on August 10 near 9 Southway, (Texas GKT5347 (front)); on August 11 near 8010 Greenbelt Station Parkway, (Md. 1DP7430 (front)), and near 7911 Mandan Road, (Va. 34710N (rear)); on August 13 near 5469 Stream Bank Lane, (Md. 3GX3218 (front)); and on August 14 near 6404 Ivy Lane, from a 2024 Volkswagen Jetta both front and rear tags.

On August 10 near 8150 Lakecrest Drive, fuel was siphoned and stolen from a Hummer H2.

Stolen Tags Recovered

On August 14 near Ora Glen Drive and Greenbrook Drive, a front tag was recovered and placed into property.

On August 15 near 11 Southway, a Texas tag was found that had been reported stolen through Prince George's County Police.

Vandalism to Auto

On August 10 near 7231 Hanover Parkway, a Nissan Pathfinder had a smashed window.

On August 11 near 7710 Hanover Parkway, a door handle was broken on a 2022 Acura RDX.

On August 12 near 155 Westway, a 2026 Honda CRV had a window broken.

Non-Contact Shootings Continue; Latest Occurred August 16

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

At approximately 4 p.m. on Sunday, August 16, Greenbelt police officers received multiple calls from residents about gunshots in the area of 5900 Cherrywood Lane.

One caller described seeing a white vehicle leaving the scene shortly after the shots were heard. Officers found multiple shell casings of different calibers, along with multiple vehicles damaged by gunfire, including a Ford van, Toyota Camry and Chevy 1500 truck. One building window was damaged. As no injuries or victims were reported, this is described as a non-contact shooting.

This shooting adds to a string of non-contact shootings that have been happening almost weekly during July and August.

Another non-contact shooting took place on August 7 near Lerner University Square apartments, 157 Westway. Police received calls from people who had heard the gunshots and one person was detained, questioned and released. Evidence was collected from the scene, police reported (see the August 13 issue).

In the August 6 issue we reported that there had been three non-contact shootings in under four weeks and at each of those shootings – July 8 on Edmonston Road, July 14 on Breezewood Terrace and July 27 on Breezewood Court, a group had been seen fleeing following the gunfire.

Following the July 27 incident witnesses reported a group of fleeing men wearing ski masks. Police said that bullet casings were gathered from the area, as well as surveillance footage.

Greenbelt Police Department has not announced any connection between the shootings.

Anyone with information can call the department at 301-474-7200. Information can be provided anonymously.

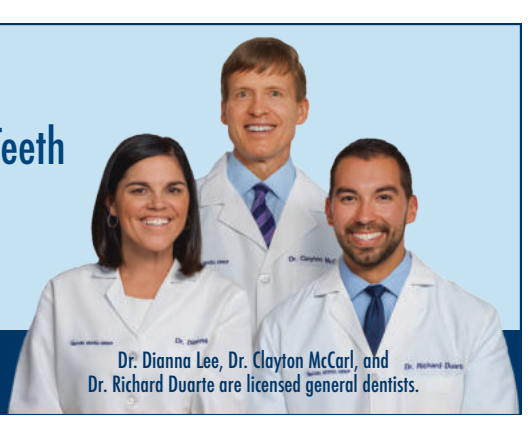
BALLOT continued from page 8

source contract, IPP was said to have "the required paper stock reserved and production capacity available to meet the schedule for printing approximately 629,000 voter guides and coordinating mailing services."

"Delays associated with a competitive procurement process could jeopardize the timely distribution of voter information to registered voters prior to the election period. Therefore, this vendor is considered the only practical source capable of meeting the required timeline and production requirements." Though the justification cited 629,000 specimen ballots, documents obtained via MPIA show BoE IT Manager Shafiq Satterfield stated on May 11 that the number of specimen ballots to be mailed "may be slightly under the 486,000 marker." Honesty-Bey did not respond to our inquiry about the origins of the 629,000 number by press time.

Our MPIA request returned that there are no internal reports, formal assessments, or after-action documents that followed the specimen ballot delay.

The News Review has submitted a supplemental MPIA request for USPS delivery records and also awaits a response to questions sent to IPP.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BOXED: $11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches ($17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each $10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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Sports

Fall Tryouts for ERHS Begin; Scrimmages Start This Week

by Patrick Gleason

As summer swelters on, high school student athletes are already preparing for their fall seasons. Tryouts at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) commenced on Wednesday, August 12 for the school soccer, volleyball, football and cross-country teams; flag football is soon to follow. Teams begin scrimmages this week in preparation for the start of the season in September.

The ERHS girls soccer program proved busy all summer as prospective team members competed in the Prince George's Parks and Recreation 7v7 summer league that featured teams from county high schools, including Bowie, Parkdale, Flowers and Bishop McNamara. Roosevelt entered two teams, Roosevelt United and Raiders FC, that included new and returning players.

Roosevelt United advanced to the tournament semifinals on August 7, falling in a seven-round penalty shootout to Milan FC. Junior forward Morgan Parks tallied a first half goal for a 1-0 Roosevelt lead two days after scoring a hat trick to help the team advance to the semifinal matchup. After Milan tied the game from a corner kick deflection, Roosevelt goalkeeper Angie Santos stood strong during the penalty shootout, making multiple saves through the initial five kicks. The teams remained tied at one before both teams scored their sixth kick. Finally, Milan triumphed in the seventh round but the summer season ended productively nonetheless.

Raiders FC finished the summer strong with a team comprised of mostly seniors and sophomores. Lien Gareri, Jocelyn Lopez Tirado and Naomi Petralia offered veteran leadership to accompany an impressive sophomore grouping including Ayanna Steele, Devin Allard, Mia Moore, Gabrielle Singh and Beatrice Marx.

The Roosevelt fall season will kick off on September 8 with a home matchup against Elizabeth Seton. While the Raiders graduated a large senior class a year ago, the roster boasts 14 returnees this year and will include several members of the successful junior varsity roster from a year ago. Graduated senior Autumn Freeman began her college career at American University last week, playing significant minutes in each of the Eagle's first two games. While the four-year Raider varsity standout's presence will be missed, Roosevelt is poised to build on last season's county championship campaign, hoping that its summer labors produce fall fruits.

PHOTO BY ANNETTE FREEMAN

Current and graduated ERHS soccer members at Autumn Freeman's signing day event last November. Freeman now plays at American University, while the ERHS fall season began this past week.

Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share?

We welcome your photos and stories at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

City Notes

Public Safety/Community and the Fire Chief attended the Four Cities meeting about fire station staffing. Legislative sent a letter to the county supporting the gas-powered leaf blower ban and Constituent Services led the monthly Community Relations Advisory Board meeting. Economic Development attended the monthly Hotel Roundtable meeting and provided resource information at a county entrepreneurship meeting.

Code Enforcement inspected 35 rentals and issued nine permits. Animal Shelter residents are five cats, seven kittens and two dogs after one kitten adoption.

Public Works began preparations for the Labor Day Festival. Recycling/Sustainability hosted CPR training for public-facing Public Works staff. Facilities Maintenance serviced generators at the Police Station, Community Center and Public Works.

Therapeutic Recreation hosted an art social for seniors and provided inclusion support for Parents Night Out.

Rangers and Public Works removed a wasp nest in the Schrom Hills Park Community Room.

CARES supported the annual Energy Assistance Workshop at Green Ridge House for 11 residents.

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Group Spirit, Great Attitude Make Hard Work More Fun

by Cathie Meetre

Every few years, the News Review's office floor in the Community Center must be cleaned and waxed. The News Review packs a lot into their office, with computers, file cabinets, printers, snacks and a whole lot of Greenbelt's history and current reality. In the second week of August this year, it was time again – the floor was grubby and scuffed up and various objects had taken up residence where none should be.

Volunteers Abound

The call for volunteers went out and signups were prompt – we'd looked for 20 volunteers in five shifts. All the slots were filled pronto, and when the day came, everybody showed up who had signed up as well as several who had been too slow to bag a spot, worrying perhaps that we'd be shorthanded or afraid of missing the fun. We didn't ask.

It's clear an organization is vibrant when you're fighting off volunteers to move furniture and clean up afterwards – it's not glamorous and the only reward is chocolate chip cookies, grapes and strawberries.

Getting It Done

The move-out team and the back-in team all had a busy and, it seemed, enjoyable time. The stuff got moved to a room across the hall on Thursday and a little bit organized and culled. Friday, the floors were waxed and Saturday morning everything got moved back in. With so many willing hands, it was done quickly.

Thanks to All

A special thanks to News Review Member Joe Robbins who rode herd on about 17 computers, three printers and all the wires along with the wifi equipment that keeps them going. Thanks also to the other News Review members who helped (alphabetically by last name): Larry Beyna, Jerry Bonnell, Letty Bonnell, Rasheeda Childress, Maurice Crawford, Deanna Dawson, Carol Griffith, Michael Hartman, Peggy Higgins, Jeff Jones, Mary Kokumo, Linda Lucas, Anne Marigza, Rick Meetre, Cathie Meetre, Diane Oberg, Becky Rackis, Sandy Rodgers, Lois Rosado, Pat Scully, Mark Sherman, Ray Zammuto and Michael Zeliff.

Hats off to the Community Center staff for accommodating the newspaper's requests.

- Photos by Jerry Bonnell

Diane Oberg, left, and Joe Robbins begin putting the Business Department back together.

A swarm of volunteers undertakes a multitude of tasks.

The new and the old: Joe Robbins, left, and Ray Zammuto, right, get the computers back on line, while Deanna Dawson returns the archival copies of the printed papers to their shelves.

Sandy Rodgers, left, and Joe Robbins go about their separate tasks.

Greenbelters Travel

PHOTO BY TED ESTENSON

During Joan Estenson's second trip back to Minnesota this summer, she spent a couple of days with her brother in Rochester, Minn. In the background is the Ear of Corn Water Tower. Built in 1931 for a cannery, it was a landmark then for pilots looking for a landing strip and a landmark then and now for those on the ground. The cannery is long gone and the county now owns the water tower.

PHOTO BY JASMIN SHINN

Rescue horse Whisper and Katrina Boverman read the Greenbelt News Review when Katrina visited 1 Horse at a Time Draft Horse Rescue in Corvallis, Montana.

PHOTO BY JOE TAYLOR

From left, Greenbelters Vanderlei Martins, Chip Helms and Matt Walker McLinden pose in front of the NASA ER-2 high altitude research aircraft in Great Falls, Montana. The trio are supporting the NASA INSPYRE field campaign, aimed at studying wildfires and wildfire-induced thunderstorms.

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